

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for considering the present application. In the Office Action dated October 14, 2004, claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claims 11, 12 and 17 stand objected to for an informality. Applicants have amended the word "or" and replaced it with "and" in the claims.

Claims 1, 5, 7, 11-13, 15-18, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Katoh* (5,748,477).

Applicants have amended the independent claims to recite that an occupant position and classification signal from an occupant position and classification sensor is utilized by the coordinated safety system. Also, a plurality of early crash countermeasures is determined. The coordinated safety system controller generates a threat confirmation signal in response to the threat assessment signal developed in the pre-crash controller and the early crash signal. The coordinated safety system controller selects and deselects an appropriate early crash countermeasure from the plurality of early crash countermeasures in response to the early crash signal, the occupant position and classification signal, the threat confirmation signal, and the pre-crash controller signal. Applicants respectfully submit that the *Katoh* reference does not teach or suggest such limitations.

Claims 1, 5, 11-13, 15-18, and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Pierce* (6,370,461). The claims as amended are not taught or suggested in the *Pierce* reference. The *Pierce* reference does mention a seatway or occupant spatial sensor but does not teach occupant position and classification sensor. As was mentioned in the current specification, this is different than the sensors set forth in the *Pierce* reference. Also, no selecting of a threat confirmation signal is found in the *Pierce* reference. Applicants therefore respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection in view of the amendments above.

Claims 2, 3, 8-10, 14, and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Katoh* in view of *Stopczynski* (6,519,519). The *Stopczynski* reference also does not teach or suggest the limitations in the amended claims.

Claims 2, 3, and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Katoh* in view of *Asayama* (5,633,705). Applicants have reviewed the *Asayama* reference and it also fails to teach the limitations set forth in the amended claims.

Claims 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over

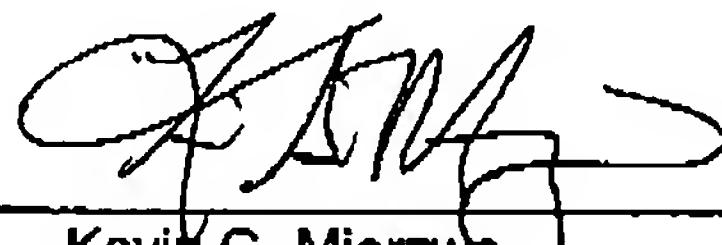
*Pierce* in view of *Shaw* (6,529,138). Applicants respectfully submit that the *Shaw* reference also does not teach or suggest the limitations of the newly amended independent claims.

Claims 4 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Katoh* or *Pierce* in view of *Stopczynski* and *Brown* (6,571,161). Claims 14 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Katoh* or *Pierce* in view of *Adolph* (5,785,347), *Swanberg* (5,707,078) and *Steffens, Jr.* (5,413,378). Applicants have reviewed the *Brown*, *Adolph*, *Swanberg* and *Steffens* references and can find no teaching or suggestion for the amended independent claims. Applicants therefore respectfully believe that these dependent claims are also allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that all objections are now overcome. Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Please charge any fees required in the filing of this amendment to Deposit Account 06-1510.

Respectfully submitted,



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